

Northwestern Local Human Right Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Right Committee will be on August 14, 2012 at Timber Ridge in Winchester, VA.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2012 LHRC MEETING

The May 8, 2012 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at Grafton in Winchester, VA.

Members Present: Ms. Jeannie Decker; Ms. Audrey Brown; and Ms. Joanne Ebersole

Affiliates Present: Chuck Collins & Mark Seymour (Advocates); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (Blue Ridge Opportunities); Eileen Martelli (Children's Services of VA); Brian Kesner (Community Alternatives of VA); Heidi Fields (Family Preservation); Clif MacDonald & Tammy MacDonald (Good Life Corporation); Amy Smith & Scott Zeiter (Grafton); Lanette Wood (Heart Havens); Chris Rousseau (Intensive Supervision); Cassie Phipps & Artea Ambrose (Lutheran Family Services); Troy Payne (National Counseling Group); Mark Gleason (NWCSB); Emily Johnson (NOVA Family Services, Inc.); Troy Hawkins & Betsey Anderson (NW Works); Mickie Duncan & Barbie Sharp (Shen-Paco); Debbie Young (SVCR); Karen Tompkins (Timber Ridge School); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Angela Allmaras (Winchester Addiction Services); Gayle Shanholtz (Winchester Medical Center); and Mary Zirkle (Winchester Community Mental Health Center).

Affiliates Absent: Bridging the Gaps; Creative Family Solutions; Lord Fairfax House; and Where the Heart Is.

Others Present: Ms. Katie Bundrick; Ms. Valenthia Mack; Ms. Renee Smith; Ms. Michelle Pettis; and Ms. Carol Ricker.

Call To Order: Ms. Decker called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and welcomed everyone. She thanked Grafton for hosting and everyone for coming.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Brown made a motion to approve the February 7, 2012 minutes, Ms. Ebersole seconded and the motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Comments by LHRC Affiliates or Members:

- Ms. Wolfe-Heberle from Blue Ridge Opportunities told the board that they were given two citations. One was for restrooms and the other was for not having a Behavioral Plan on file for a client.
- Ms. Hurt from Wall Residences informed the board that they have recently hired an RN with a DD certification to do trainings. These trainings will focus more on medical issues.

- Mr. Gleason from Northwestern Community Services Board shared with the board that they have renewed their affiliation with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
- Ms. Phipps from Lutheran Family Services informed the board that two years ago six employees went back to get their Master's degrees. Four of these six still work at LFS and all six are going to graduate this weekend.
- Ms. Karen Tompkins from Timber Ridge Schools was pleased to announce that 14 students will graduate this spring.
- Mr. Scott Zeiter from Grafton introduced himself. He played a key role in the integration of Graydon Manor and Grafton.

Advocate Update:

Mr. Collins again discussed the settlement agreement between the state of Virginia and the Department of Justice. The state is embarking on an aggressive plan for discharging individuals in these institutions. There will be seven licensing specialists hired to focus only on placing these individuals. The concern is finding providers that can accommodate special needs. This is the priority of the department.

Mr. Seymour discussed VICAP. Northwestern has been able to move children through this process. Jefferson Trail Treatment Center for Children in Charlottesville was recently closed. This was an administrative choice. Children's providers in this area might pick up some children from this program.

Program Reports: Each affiliates quarterly report was reviewed by the board prior to the meeting. There were no questions raised by the board.

Old Business: Ms. Lisa Marshall discussed Grafton's research which will look at the Gut Flora that lives within our body. Grafton is working with George Mason to do a study of 40-50 people including clients with autism. The hope in doing this study is to find a connection between Gut Flora and autism. Ms. Brown made a motion to approve Grafton's research project for Gut Flora, Ms. Ebersole seconded and the motion carried.

New Business: Ms. Allmaras from Winchester Addiction Services requested permanent affiliation Ms. Brown made a motion to approve, Ms. Ebersole seconded and the motion carried. Ms. Valenthia Mack from Winchester Family and Community Services requested temporary affiliation contingent upon licensure Ms. Brown made a motion to approve, Ms. Ebersole seconded and the motion carried. Ms. Phipps from Lutheran Family Services stated that on April 1 a license was issued merging the Lamano agencies and Lutheran Family Services. Ms. Phipps also informed the board that as of December 15, 2011 Lutheran Family Services has a Behavioral Track that serves this area. In addition, Lutheran Family Services now has a sponsored residential services track for Winchester and a modification application requesting affiliation for outpatient services for the Winchester office was submitted. Lutheran Family Services also has a new human rights policy since their merger with Lamano. Ms. Phipps further informed the board that

Lutheran Family Services will be changing their training from Crisis De-escalation CPI to Safety Care agency wide over the next six months. Mr. Chris Rousseau from Intensive Supervision requested affiliation of Outpatient Counseling in Front Royal Ms. Brown made a motion to approve, Ms. Ebersole seconded and the motion carried. Ms. Shanholtz from Winchester Medical Center stated that they are currently operating at 26 beds but will soon be in the process of renovating six of these beds.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:23. The next meeting of the LHRC will be at Timber Ridge in Winchester.

Executive Session: Ms. Decker made a motion that the LHRC convene into closed session to discuss confidential client matters pursuant to the protection of privacy exemption as noted in Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (4). Ms. Brown seconded and the motion was approved.

Executive session was adjourned at 8:07 where it is certified that only confidential client matters were discussed.

During the Executive Session:

- 1) One applicant was interviewed for the committee. The application will be forwarded to the State Human Rights Committee office for approval.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Catherine E. Bundrick, NWCS Administrative Assistant

Jeannie Decker, Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison